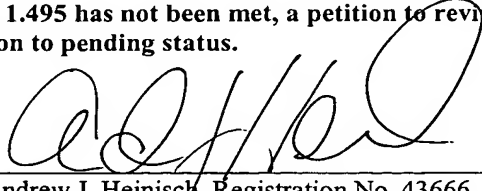


U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Customer Service Window Mail Stop PCT Alexandria, VA 22314		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 505217  CLIENT REF. NO. BP.SIDM.037B/US.WO  U.S. APPLICATION NO. <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/565097</div>
<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES          DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)          CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 USC 371 AND 37 CFR 1.491</b>		
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/10673	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE September 23, 2004	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED September 24, 2003
TITLE OF INVENTION A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF METAL COATED STEEL PRODUCTS		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Marijke De Meyer; Serge Claessens, Franz Horzenberger		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.491.		
2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.491.		
3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)).		
4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (PCT Article 31).		
5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ul>		
6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2)).		
7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ul>		
8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)).		
9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 USC 371(c)(4)).		
10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 USC 371(c)(5)).		
11. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF)</li> <li>b. Specification Sequence Listing on:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or</li> <li>ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies</li> </ul>		
<b>Items 12 to 19 below concern other document(s) or information included:</b>		
12. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Copies of References (except for U.S. patents and applications)</li> </ul>		
13. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.		
14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</li> </ul>		
15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.		
16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.		
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet Under 37 CFR 1.76		
18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard		
19. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. <b>10/565097</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2004/10673		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 505217	CLIENT REF. NO. BP.SIDM.037B/US.WO	
20. The following fees are submitted:					CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Filing Fee					\$300.00	
Search Fee					\$400.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> USPTO was ISA \$100.00						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search report provided to USPTO by other entity \$400.00						
<input type="checkbox"/> All other situations \$500.00						
Examination Fee					\$200.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> US was IPEA and all claims satisfy PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All other situations \$200.00						
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT=					\$900.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim Fee						
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE			
Total Claims	12 -20=	0	x \$ 50.00		\$0.00	
Independent Claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00		\$0.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable) +\$360.00					\$0.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Size Fee (\$250 for each additional 50 sheets over 100)					\$0.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the National fee or oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date.					\$0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS=					\$900.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.					\$(0.00)	
SUBTOTAL=					\$900.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing English Translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date.					\$0.00	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE=					\$900.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee for recording the enclosed assignment. The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet. \$40.00 per property. +					\$0.00	
TOTAL FEE=					\$900.00	
					Amount to be: refunded \$	
					charged: \$	
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> No fee is believed to be due.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-3505 the total fee indicated above.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3505. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO CUSTOMER NO. 53609:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">53609</p> <p style="text-align: right;">             Andrew J. Heinisch, Registration No. 43666            Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren P.C.            483 North Mulford Road, Suite 7            Rockford, Illinois 61104            (815) 484-1900 (telephone)            (815) 484-1032 (facsimile)            Date: January 18, 2006         </p>						

10/565097

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

IAP20 Rec d PCT/PTO 18 JAN 2006

"Express Mail" Label Number: EV 784517498 US

Date of Deposit:

January 18, 2006

I hereby certify that this transmittal document with respect to the U.S. national phase of the above-referenced International Patent Application, including all of the items listed thereon as enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Printed Name of Person Signing:

Tracey Johnson

Tracey Johnson

Signature

Page 3 of 3